

6 Pillars of Character

Trustworthiness:

Worthy of trust, honor and confidence

Do tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Be forthright and sincere. Say what you mean and mean what you say. If you find property, make every effort to return it to its owner. Stand up for your beliefs about right and wrong. Be reliable, keep your word, and return what you borrow. Make only those commitments that you firmly intend to keep. Keep confidential information confidential.

How can prove you are trustworthy? Identify the adults in your life you feel you can trust. How have they demonstrated their own trustworthiness?

Respect:

Regard for the dignity and worth of all people including yourself.

Treat all people with respect by being courteous and polite. Be tolerant, appreciative and accepting individual differences. Judge all people on their merits, not race, religion, nationality, gender, social or economic status or physical condition.

How do you show someone respect? “The best way to get respect is to give it.” Explain.

Responsibility:

Acknowledgement and performance of duties to others and self.

Think before you act-consider the possible consequences on yourself and others. Be accountable and reliable.

What does “being responsible” mean to you? Do you typically have to be told what to do, or do you take the initiative to act on your own?

Justice/Fairness:

Making decisions that are just and fair.

Treat all people fairly. Be open-minded, listen to others and try to understand their feelings. In making decisions, fairly consider all relevant information.

Explain the difference between justice and revenge.

Caring:

Regard for the well-being of others.

Show you care for others through kindness, generosity, sharing and compassion.

What does “Live by the Golden Rule” mean?

Citizenship:

Recognition of and living up to social obligations.

Obey all laws and school rules. Do your share; stay informed, vote, protect your family and community. Be charitable. Give something back.

What does it mean to be a good citizen? Name some things you can do to help those who are less fortunate than you.